

## Holzweiler Animal Welfare Policy

*This policy is developed by the Holzweiler CSR team and is regularly revised. Last updated 10.05.2023*

### Introduction

**The five freedoms for animal welfare shall be followed to ensure that mental and physical needs of animals are cared for:**

- Freedom from hunger and thirst: by ready access to fresh water and a diet to maintain full health and vigour.
- Freedom from discomfort: by providing an appropriate environment including shelter and a comfortable resting area.
- Freedom from pain, injury or disease: by prevention through rapid diagnosis and treatment.
- Freedom to express normal behaviour: by providing sufficient space, proper facilities and company of the animal's own kind.
- Freedom from fear and distress: by ensuring conditions and treatment which avoid mental suffering.

**The Holzweiler Animal Welfare Policy are requirements the supplier is obliged to follow.** Due to campaigns and reporting of occurrences of failing animal welfare, additional policies, both temporary and permanent, may be implemented in addition to this policy.

### Animal materials

It is not allowed to initiate work with other animal materials than those allowed herein without consulting CSR team first.

### BANS

- **FUR:** All use of real fur is prohibited.  
Definition of fur according to Fur Free Retailer: fur means any animal skin or part thereof with hair or fur fibres attached thereto, either in its raw or processed state or the pelt of any animal killed for the animal's fur. Sheepskin, cow skin, lambskin and leather with hair or fur fibres attached thereto, are considered co-products of the food industry and thus not classified as 'fur' according to the Fur Free Retailer program definition.
- **LEATHER** from aborted animals such as slink, karakul and Persian lamb must not be used.
- **ANGORA:** Holzweiler has a total ban on angora wool and angora wool blend yarns.
- **YAK:** All use of yak is prohibited
- **ENDANGERED SPECIES:** Materials derived from species appearing on the **IUCN** (International Union for Conservation of Nature) or the **CITE** (the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora) lists of endangered species shall not be used in products supplied to Holzweiler.
- **LIVE-STOCK EXPORTATION FOR SLAUGHTER:** Live-stock shall not be exported for slaughter.

### Traceability

The origin of animal fibers must always be declared and authenticated. Holzweiler reserves the right to visit and audit all entities in the supply chain.

It is the supplier's obligation to share information on Holzweiler Animal Welfare Policy with sub-suppliers.

Traceability is an important factor, and Declaration forms shall be filled out and all supporting documents shall be supplied.

All suppliers must **describe the supply chain** for all kinds of animal fibers in TrusTrace including uploading a Certificate of Origin. This routine applies no matter percentage of fiber in finished product.

When a Certificate of Origin cannot be supplied for the fiber due to further processing in the same country, a dialogue on what documentation is valid as substitution shall be made with CSR Department.

TC's for Responsible Down Standard, Responsible Wool Standard or Responsible Mohair Standard etc. must also be uploaded in TrusTrace platform for the relevant orders.  
See Supplier Manual for more specific requirements on documentation for specific products. (WIP)

Holzweiler’s requirements to Animal welfare:

DOWN AND FEATHER

All **down** must be certified by the Responsible Down Standard (RDS) or recycled down

What’s next  
Explore alternative non-feather filling materials.

WOOL

**Merino wool**; from sheep that has been exposed to Mulesing is not accepted.  
We prioritize sourcing wool certified with the Responsible wool standard (RWS) or ZQ Merino or Soil Association Organic standard.

**Recycled wool** is a good alternative to newly produced wool when possible and it meets the quality standard for Holzweiler products, this is a way to minimize our environmental impact and maximize the use of already produced materials.

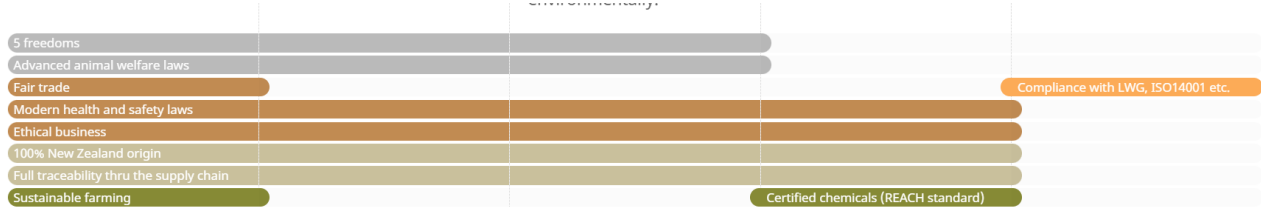
**Mohair**: certified with Responsible Mohair Standard (RMS)  
**Cashmere**: certified within “The Good Cashmere Standard” or “Sustainable Cashmere Standard” by SFA Sustainable cashmere standard or recycled.  
**Alpaca**: certified with Responsible Alpaca Standard (RAS)

Sources:

- [Responsible Mohair Standard \(RMS\) - Textile Exchange](#)
- [The Good Cashmere Standard](#)
- [SFA | The Sustainable Fibre Alliance](#)
- [Responsible Alpaca Standard \(RAS\) - Textile Exchange](#)

LEATHER

Only leather that is a co-product from animals that have been bred for the food industry will be accepted. Hides or skins from exotic animals are prohibited, including but not limited to crocodiles, snakes, sharks and seals. We aim for sourcing leather only from tanneries certified by **Leather working group** and **Realgrade leather (NZ)**. The standards cover several stages of the supply chain:



What’s next: Holzweiler is exploring selected non-animal materials as an alternative to leather as a step to reduce the impact on animals, climate and environment.

SILK

We aim for sourcing organic silk. Silk shall not be knowingly sourced from areas or countries where breaches to the Supplier Code of Conduct (therein ILOs core conventions) are present. This applies to Silk production in India and Uzbekistan until further notice.

Related documents;

Holzweiler preferred material list: (is revised regularly)

	Good	Avoid	Banned
Plant based materials	Recycled cotton Organic Cotton Linen Hemp Organic silk Bio Acetate REFIBRA™ Ecovero™ TENCEL™ Modal TENCEL™ Lyocell	Conventional cotton Viscose Rayon Silk Acetate Conventional Bamboo	
Animal derived materials	Responsible Mohair Standard (RMS) Responsible Wool Standard (RWS) Responsible Down Standard (RDS) Recycled down Recycled wool Organic wool	Conventional wool Leather Leather working group and Realgrade leather (NZ)	Angora Fur (not including shearling) Non-RDS down Non-certified leather (2023) Non-certified Cashmere (2024)
Synthetic materials	Recycled polyamide GRS Recycled nylon GRS Recycled polyester GRS	Conventional polyester Conventional polyamide Conventional nylon Elastane	